

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF
FUENFSCHILLING ET AL.
APPLICATION NO:
FILED:
FOR: PURIFICATION PROCESS

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please enter the following amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, directly beneath the title, insert the following paragraph:

-- This is a divisional of Application No. 10/021,117, October 29, 2001, pending which is a continuation of Application No. 09/652,295, August 31, 2000, abandoned, which is a continuation of Application No. 09/271,672, March 18, 1999, abandoned, which is a continuation of Application No. 08/926,722, September 10, 1997, abandoned. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-10 and add claims 11-22:

11. (new) A process for purifying on a large scale a product from a feedstock containing one or more impurities having closely-related physical properties to the product, which process comprises
feeding the feedstock into an extraction column under conditions adapted for separating more- or less-polar impurities from the feedstock, wherein a lighter phase flows counter to a heavier phase, thereby forming an output in one phase containing the product containing less more- or less-polar impurities so that the output contains the product in a substantially purified form,